



Monday,
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Part II

Regulatory Information Service Center

Statement by the Vice President

Introduction to The Regulatory Plan and
the Unified Agenda of Federal Regulatory
and Deregulatory Actions

Agency Regulatory Plans

The Regulatory Plan

Statement by the Vice President

The publication of this sixth Regulatory Plan is a great time to assess this Administration's progress in meeting its commitment to provide the American people with a regulatory system that works for them.

Since the first Regulatory Plan, published in 1994, we've learned a lot about how to go about the business of regulating. Initially, the reform effort focused on the regulatory process itself, with Executive Order No. 12866 serving as the foundation. At that time, we pointed to several early indications of progress based on the planning principles contained in the Executive order.

The next year, we moved from process to content with a Governmentwide call for reinvention of regulations. We challenged agencies to eliminate or reinvent existing regulations and paperwork requirements to reduce the burden on the American public while retaining the intended benefits. The 1995 Regulatory Plan contained a number of illustrations of regulatory programs that agencies critically reviewed and changed as a result of this challenge.

In 1996, the dominant theme in regulatory reform was the use of emerging technology to improve public access to regulatory information. Federal agencies were in the forefront in reengineering their regulatory processes to take advantage of the revolution in information technology, and the 1996 Regulatory Plan reported many of the innovations and changes agencies instituted.

In the past two years, the Regulatory Plans included many regulations developed using the regulatory philosophy and principles of Executive Order No. 12866. Agencies were working hard to instill its planning principles into their ongoing rulemaking operations. By streamlining regulations, considering a range of alternatives, increasing outreach, and using plain language, Federal agencies are adopting a new approach to regulating.

Executive Order No. 12866 laid a foundation for real change in the way we regulate. In addition, we've learned a great deal in the past 6 years. We now know that:

1. We need to do a better job communicating and involving stakeholders in the regulatory process;
2. We need to do more to help the regulated community to comply;
3. By using information effectively, we can better target our enforcement efforts at the most serious challenges; and
4. We always need to keep focused on the results that Americans care about, like clean air and safe food, instead of how many tickets we're writing.

In the 1999 Regulatory Plan, we are seeing more evidence we're changing the way we regulate. But we still have a long way to go. The challenge ahead is to sustain this momentum and not become complacent with the progress we have made to date. You can be an active participant in this process by using The Regulatory Plan and the Unified Agenda of Federal

Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions and registering your opinions with the regulatory agencies. We encourage you to do so.



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